



market update



18 NOVEMBER 2020

North Island	<p>Last week's rain has had some residual effect with a little split fruit, mostly as small splits at the nose and of fruit that was already showing some colour. How much have we lost? Maybe 5% of the Hawke's Bay cherry crop and a few of the more susceptible apricots. All in all, nothing that we would not expect sometime in a standard season. Growing degree days, GDD, are still exceptional, up 50-70 units on last year at this time, which is reflecting in the early harvests. This week will see potential evapotranspiration, PET, in the 3-4mm/day which will use up a goodly amount of the 50mm+ that fell last week. We are still talking 7-10 days earlier harvest than last year. A comparison to last year's report from this date confirms that we are a variety ahead of then.</p>
South Island	<p>Renwick data shows 40 GDD ahead of last year, or, a few days ahead, but with more rain due the helicopters may well be booked in for some more tree drying. PET is predicted to be in the 2-3mm/day range. Crop loss to this point is guessed at about 5% of the total volume.</p> <p>While Central Otago is a couple of weeks away from any meaningful harvest there is some very good heat accumulation occurring. Cromwell is 70 units ahead of last season, Rockview and Roxburgh are 50 units ahead with the Clyde station similar to last season. Some are calling the Cromwell cherry season to be 10-14 days ahead with the implication being that those pickers are needed sooner rather than in a while.</p>

cherries	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In Hawke's Bay Primulat is nearing the end of harvest and Cashmere is being picked. The next in line are Rosann, followed by Santina and Sonnet next week. Marlborough is finishing off Earlise and picking a few Samba for local sales, and then looking forward to Rosann and more Samba. Let's hope the forecast rain is but a shower. ➤ Central Otago is looking to be early, especially out of the Cromwell basin and will have some early fruit in a couple of weeks. There should be an update next week on how it is all tracking. 			
apricots	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ I hear the first of the Royal Rosa is just starting from the very early blocks. At the weekend some of the other orchards will have a nibble into their Royal Rosa and Rogercot. Volumes will remain low for another week and then begin to build. The rain of two weeks ago has caused a little splitting but not nearly as much as I thought there might have been. 			
nectarines	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mayglo will continue to be the major nectarine in the market all be it in small volumes. A new early, and exciting variety called Polar Light has made its premier this year. It has a full red colour, white flesh and a bit of tang. (<i>see photograph</i>). From the little bit that I have seen it is impressive for this time of the year. There is no real volume but one to watch for in coming years. ➤ In one of my local supermarkets there were a few Mayglo with visible rots. A little surprising as all the fruit that have been sitting on my bench have dehydrated as they should, and not shown rots. A reminder to us all that there has been rain. 			
peaches	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Peaches too are nearly under way. There will be some Spring Fire picked at the weekend and next week Springcrest and Spring White will start. 			
plums	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rose Zee from Twyford is still 10-14 days away with the earlier areas a little closer to harvest. 			

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Note: The information supplied is based on communication with summerfruit growers, marketers, retailers and other relevant industry parties. Information supplied on cherries, apricots, nectarines, peaches and plums can alter after publishing due to unexpected weather events, market forces, and other events relevant to the industry. Seek daily advice on supply from your summerfruit supplier.